

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Please amend claim 15 and 16 and add new claims 17-22 as indicated in the List of Claims below.

**List of Claims:**

- 1-12. Cancelled.
13. (Previously presented) A method for assaying a test compound for its ability to alter the expression of the human amyloid precursor protein, comprising:
- a) preparing a vector for recombinantly expressing a peptide or protein in a eukaryotic cell, wherein said vector comprises:
    - i) a promoter which is active in said eukaryotic cell;
    - ii) a translation enhancer element consisting essentially of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said element is 3' to said promoter;
    - iii) a DNA sequence encoding said peptide or protein, wherein said DNA sequence:
      - aa) lies 3' to said translation enhancer element;
      - bb) is operably linked to said promoter; and
      - cc) is non-homologous to said translation enhancer element;
  - b) measuring the expression of said gene in said vector in the absence of said test compound; and
  - c) comparing the expression determined in step b) with the expression of said gene in the presence of said test compound.
14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising transforming a host cell with said vector prior to measuring the expression of said gene.
15. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[12]]~~ 13, wherein said test compound comprises a nucleic acid sequence complementary to a region of SEQ ID NO:1 at least 10 base pairs in length.

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[12]]~~ 13, wherein said test compound is an RNA targeting compound.
17. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein said host cell is an astrocyte or astrocytoma cell.
18. (New) The method of any one of claims 13-17, wherein said assay is carried out in the presence of one or more cytokines.
19. (New) The method of any one of claims 13-17, wherein said assay is carried out in the presence of either interleukin-1 $\alpha$  or interleukin-1 $\beta$ .
20. (New) The method of any one of claim 13-17, wherein said method includes measuring mRNA levels of said protein or peptide.
21. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein said assay is carried out in the presence of one or more cytokines.
22. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein said assay is carried out in the presence of either interleukin-1 $\alpha$  or interleukin-1 $\beta$ .